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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who knows what is best for us, we submit today to Your loving providence. Continue to be our refuge and strength, a very present help in the time of trouble. May we never forget that nothing in all creation can separate us from Your love.

Bless our lawmakers. Fill their hearts with such love for You that no difficulty or hardship will prevent them from obeying Your precepts. Help them to remember that those who walk in integrity travel securely.

Lord, strengthen their resolve to serve You as they should and in doing so may they become more aware of Your continuous presence.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). The Democratic leader is recognized.

DONALD TRUMP AND THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Republican nominee of our great country continues to attack a Federal judge because of his Mexican heritage. This is

not only wrong, it is racist and un-American. It is also a fundamental attack on the American judiciary system.

When issues like these arise, the Nation has historically looked to the Senate for leadership. In particular, throughout our history, the Senate Judiciary Committee has been a bastion of independence and bipartisanship. When Federal judges are under assault, we should expect the chairman of the Judiciary Committee to rise above politics and condemn racism—but not this Judiciary chairman who is now the chairman of the committee in the United States Senate, not the senior United States Senator from Iowa.

Instead of a bold feat of bipartisanship, we are left with yet another example of how he has become the most partisan Judiciary chairman in the history of America. Instead of rising above partisanship and condemning Trump's racist attacks on a highly qualified judge—by the way, who was born in Indiana—Senator GRASSLEY kisses Trump's ring and toes the party line. Instead of condemning Trump, GRASSLEY defended him.

His rationale is mind-boggling. Listen to this: Senator GRASSLEY says that Trump must respect the Judiciary because over the course of hundreds of lawsuits and years of litigation, Trump has actually won some cases. I can't make up something like this.

For example, a quote from a newspaper article:

Grassley also suggested Trump's propensity for filing lawsuits showed some level of respect for the judicial branch.

"He must respect the Judiciary," Grassley said. "I've seen statistics that he's won over 400 cases, only lost 30."

How about that. I find it curious that the chairman doesn't have time to read Merrick Garland's questionnaire or give him a hearing, but he has time to study Donald Trump's success rate in the courtroom. This says a lot, and one of the things it says is what Senator GRASSLEY's priorities are.

In spite of everything coming out of Donald Trump's mouth, Senator GRASSLEY remains loyal to Donald Trump. According to an Iowa newspaper, the Ames Tribune, Senator GRASSLEY told his constituents on Friday: "He isn't concerned by any of the controversial or inflammatory rhetoric coming from the Trump campaign."

I am a little disappointed, but—with what has happened the last couple of months—not surprised. I believe no Member of the Senate has done more for Donald Trump than the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

In January, when many Republicans were still trying to distance themselves from Donald Trump, Senator GRASSLEY introduced Trump at an Iowa campaign event. Since then, despite dozens of editorials against Senator GRASSLEY and pressure from his constituents, Senator GRASSLEY has done everything in his power to hold open a Supreme Court seat for Donald Trump to fill. I am surprised Senator GRASSLEY has yet to acknowledge these racist attacks on Judge Curiel because these attacks are beyond the pale. Instead, Senator GRASSLEY chose to further establish himself as a Trump cheerleader, just like the Republican leader has done.

Last week Senator GRASSLEY told his constituents:

He's building confidence with me.

Talking about Trump.

I've already said I'm going to vote for him.

... I'd campaign with him.

But this is not the beginning of Senator GRASSLEY's campaign for Donald Trump. Senator GRASSLEY's entire chairmanship the past 6 months has been one big campaign push for Trump. His committee has become an extension of the Trump campaign. The Republican Judiciary Committee has done everything to focus on boosting Trump but has neglected to do its job in the process.

Under Chairman GRASSLEY, the committee is reporting out almost no bills,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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